



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
BUSINESS MEETING OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL
INSPECTIONS**

**KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 372
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
<http://sbc.lacounty.gov>**

Wednesday, June 20, 2012

10:00 AM

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING. (12-2915)

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

Present: Chairperson Eleanor R. Montaña, Vice Chairperson Frank S. Bacio, Commissioner Barbara Bigby, Commissioner Cheryl Grills Ph.D., Commissioner Anne S. Hill, Commissioner Donald S. Andrews and Commissioner Susan Burton

Call to Order. (12-2869)

**Chairperson Montaña called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
Commissioner Burton joined the meeting at 10:10 a.m.**

Chairperson Montaña led in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Approval of the June 13, 2012 Minutes. (12-2870)

On motion of Commissioner Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Hill, the minutes of June 13, 2012 were approved.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

II. REPORTS

2. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION
 - Department of Auditor-Controller
 - Department of Children and Family Services
 - Internal Services Department
 - Department of Mental Health
 - Probation Department
 - Sheriff's Department (12-2871)

Auditor-Controller (AC)

Ms. Michele Day, Auditor Controller, Group Home Ombudsman distributed copies of the report on Group Home Hotline Call Activity for the month of May. The Auditor Controller received a total of ten (10) calls; seven (7) of the calls were referrals, including Probation, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and general inquiries relating to discipline, respect and social workers.

Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)

Ms. Elizabeth Howard, CSA III, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), reported that during the period from May 16, 2012 to June 19, 2012, DCFS hotline received a total of 53 referrals in the following categories:

- General Neglect - 21, 2 closed, 19 pending
- Sexual Abuse - 13, 1 closed, 12 pending
- Physical Abuse - 15, 4 unfounded, 11 pending
- Emotional Abuse - 4, 1 unfounded, 3 pending

Additionally, Ms. Howard reported that there were 735 Runaways during the reporting period. She answered questions posed by the Commissioners.

Internal Services Department (ISD)

Mr. William Kiriama, Manager II, Maintenance Operations Division, Internal Service Department (ISD), had nothing to report; he opened the floor to the Commission for questions. Vice Chairperson Bacio inquired about the status of the Los Padrinos roof project and the Special Handling Unit (SHU). Mr. Kiriama stated that the roof is complete however; the funds for the SHU are still pending, because the outstanding amount needed for the service/repairs is up to \$2,500 which is above the ISD agreement level.

Department of Mental Health (DMH)

There was no representative for this meeting.

Probation Department (PD)

Ms. Lisa Campbell-Motten, Director of Placement Permanency & QA of the Probation Department (PD), introduced Mr. Reaver Bingham, Deputy Chief, Adult Field/Juvenile Placement Services Division and Ms. Hania Cardenas, Director, Placement Community Transition Services who presented on AB109 Postrelease Community Supervision (PCS); and Victim-Centered Response Team (VCRT) plan respectively. In his presentation Mr. Bingham illustrated the processes for realignment for AB109 and its benefits.

Additionally, Ms. Cardenas presented on the steps that the Probation Department is taking to provide assistance to youth that are victims of sex trafficking. Copies of the presentations were provided to the Commissioners.

Sheriff Department

Commander Warren Asmus, Sheriff's Department, introduced himself to the new Commissioners. Mr. Asmus further updated the Commissioners that the court has laid off 300 employees. In addition to distributing the hanouts which summarized demographics of the jail population, Commander Asmus answered questions posed by the Commissioners.

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

3. Chairperson's Report on Various items for June 20, 2012. (12-2872)

Chairperson Montaña shared the following Newspaper Article with the Commission:

Los Angeles Times:

A Place for Group Homes (June 14, 2012)

Attachments: [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)

4. Treasurer's Report for June 20, 2012. (12-2873)

Vice Chairperson Bacio reported that the current bank statement balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$721.58.

5. Staff Report on Correspondence Received and Department Representative Reports for June 20, 2012. (12-2874)

There was no report given.

6. Review of Group Home Compliance Monitoring Audit Reports presented on June 20, 2012. (12-2875)

There was no report given.

7. Commissioners' Reports on Group Homes and/or Detention Facilities Inspections from June 14, 2012 to June 19, 2012. (12-2876)

During the reporting period the following Group Homes/Facilities were reported as being in satisfactory condition:

- **Chairperson Montano and Commissioners Andrews, Bigby, Grills and Burton visited the Men's Central Jail on June 19, 2012 and will return on July 12, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. to complete the inspection.**
- **Commissioners Grills and Burton visited Vista Del Mar- Main Campus - page 44 #1, on June 15, 2012 and reported this facility to be in satisfactory condition, however, one of the bedrooms was missing quick release latch.**
- **Commissioners Bigby and Hill visited Penny Lane - page 34 #4, on June 14, 2012.**
- **Vice Chairperson Bigby visited Careprovider Organization - page 5 #1, on June 7, 2012.**

During the reporting period the following Group Home was reported as being in unsatisfactory condition:

- **Commissioners Grills and Burton visited Washington Hancock Home - page 44 #2 on June 18, 2012 and reported the Needs and Services plans were not in the file, staff records were offsite, the beds needed to be replaced, the door knobs needed repairing and there was no team treatment book. Additionally, the Commissioners stated that a Corrective Action Response form was issued to the facility and this facility will be revisited at a later date.**
- **Chairperson Montano and Commissioner Andrews visited Children's Home of Southern California - page 8 #3, on June 18, 2012 and reported the walls needed to be repaired, the Needs and Services Plans were outdated, the facility needs more frequent supervision, the interior and exterior needs to be upgraded and there was no interaction between the staff and the residents. He further stated that this facility will be revisited within 30 days.**

III. DISCUSSIONS

8. Discussion on Group Homes.

LAUSD computers installed in Group Homes (not accessible to foster youth)

Graduation unit required for foster youth

Group Home findings (Pennacle Foundation) (12-2877)

Ms. Patricia Balonos-Gonzalez, Children Services Administrator, Out of Home Care Management Division, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), presented a follow-up report on the items of concerns raised by the Commissioners during the June 6, 2012, Commission meeting. Ms. Gonzalez reported that she contacted the Education and Mentoring section of DCFS, regarding the computers provided by the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) to the Group Homes that are under lock and key. She was referred to the LAUSD liaison who advised that LAUSD is responsible for servicing the computers and the youth have access to 20 computers at least 2-3 times a week. The staff transports the youth to Pennacle Foundation's main office, where tutoring and other services are provided. She will provide the Commission with an update.

She further reported that she followed-up with the Education and Mentoring section regarding high school graduation units requirement for foster youth. She reported that graduation requirements for foster youth are the same as other youth. However, AB167 refers to California's Education Code to exempt pupils in foster care from school district graduation requirements if the pupil transfers to the district or transfers from one high school to another within a district in the 11th or 12th grade if the pupil would not be reasonably able to complete the additional district requirements. The waiver helps foster youth graduate, however, the waiver can be a disadvantage to foster youth who may want to attend a university in the future. Copies of AB167 were distributed at the meeting.

Ms. Gonzalez further reported that the deficiencies cited at Pennacle Foundation by Commissioner Grills were not listed. A monitor is scheduled to return in mid-July or early August. She will report back to the Commission at the next business meeting.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

9. Matters not on the posted agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) referred

to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action came to the attention of the Commission subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (12-2878)

There were no matters presented.

Public Comment

10. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the Commission. (12-2879)

There were no members of the public present to address the Commission.

Adjournment

11. Adjournment for the meeting of June 20, 2012. (12-2880)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.